

Linguistics The scientific study of **human** language is called

- A linguist: is a scientist who **investigates human** language in all its facets (aspects): its structure, its use, its history, etc.
- Semantics: studies the **meaning** of words and sentences.
- Pragmatics: studies language in **context** and the influence of situation on meaning.
- Syntax: studies the **rules** governing the way words are combined to form sentences in a language.
- **Morphology**: is the study of the **forms** of words. It is the study of the ways in which words are built up from smaller units.

A word: is a unit of **expression** which has universal intuitive (natural/innate) recognition by native speakers

A lexeme: is a **dictionary** word that can be realized by word-forms.

- **Morpheme**: is the **smallest linguistic** element capable of having a **meaning** or **grammatical function**.
- Morphemes have **no internal** structure other than phonological structure.
- **Free morphemes**: are morphemes which can occur as **independent** words
- **bound morphemes**: are morphemes which cannot normally stand alone
- **allomorph** the **realizations** (forms) of a particular morpheme
- **Suppletion** is **an extreme form of allomorphy** in which two completely different roots (words) realize (are forms of) the same morpheme
- **Affixation** means the attachment of **affixes**
- A prefix is an affix that is attached **before** the root (word).
- A suffix is an affix that is attached after the root (word).
- An infix is an affix that is **placed inside** (in the middle of) a word.
- root is that part of a word which **remains** when all derivational and inflectional affixes (prefixes and suffixes) have been removed.

- A **stem** is formed when a root morpheme is **combined** with an affix
- **Content words** are words that **have meaning in that** they refer to objects, events and abstract concepts
- **Function words** are words that **exist to explain or create grammatical** or structural relationships into which the content words may fit
- A lexicon refers to the **inventory** (list) of lexical items
- Neologism : When a word that **does not exist in the lexicon** is created through a morphological rule
- **Occasionalism when** **neologism is used once and never again**
- productive rule is the one we can use frequently to form new words.
- blocking is the phenomenon whereby the existence of a word with a particular meaning inhibits the
- **Endocentric Compounds:**
 - The compound is an instance of the entity, activity or property denoted by the last constituent (component/part).
- **Exocentric Compounds:**
 - Here, the compound does not refer to an entity denoted by either constituent (component
- **Copulative Compounds:**
 - Here, both constituents refer to the entity denoted by the whole compound
- **Base Modification:**
 - Here, we change the phonology of the base segmentally and suprasegmentally
- **Clipping**
 - Here, we shorten a word without changing its meaning or its part of speech.
- **Blending**
 - Here, we merge two words by taking only the beginning of one word and joining it to the end of the other word
- Syntax is a branch of linguistics that studies how the words of a language can be combined to make larger units, such as phrases, clauses, and sentences
- **Syntax** is primarily concerned with whether a sentence is "properly put together" rather than whether it is meaningful, or silly or bizarre
- **Sentences** are characterized by words that share a structure and form a single expression.

The predicate: expresses an event in the clause and typically centers on a verb

FINITE verbs: have tense and/or person and number inflections

NON-FINITE verbs

are NOT marked for tense, agreement or any other grammatical categories associated with the FINITE verbs

infinitives (the bare verb stem with no inflections such as the verbs coming after:

participles: verbs after 'have, has, had'

gerunds: V + ing

inversion'When two words switch places

- **Competence:** refers to the linguistic knowledge of native speakers, an innate (inherent) biological function of the mind that allows individuals to generate the infinite (unlimited) set of grammatical sentences that constitutes their language.

Performance: refers to the actual use of language in concrete situations. It is the speakers' ability to use the unconscious knowledge of their language (which is represented by their linguistic competence)

(1) **Grammatical competence:**

It means the acquisition of morphological rules, phonological rules, syntactic rules, semantic rules and lexical items

) Sociolinguistic competence:

- It refers to the social and cultural norms that enable speakers to use the language appropriately according to the 'social context'.

Strategic competence:

This is to do with the knowledge of verbal and nonverbal strategies in order to:

(a) compensate breakdowns (such as self-correction),

(B) enhance the effectiveness of communication (e.g.

Guessing meaning from context, tolerating ambiguity).

Structural ambiguity occurs when two distinct deep structures representing two different concepts/ideas are expressed in the same surface structure form (i.e. the same sentence

surface structure (the syntactic form they take as English sentences),

Generative Grammar

- Earlier approaches to syntactic description attempted to produce an accurate analysis of the sequence or arrangement of elements in the structure of a sentence.
- **Prescriptive grammar** is concerned with (prescribes) the ways in which language should be used rather than with how language is *actually* used by speakers.

Descriptive Grammar:

It may be that using a well-established grammatical description of Latin

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